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PTO/SB/21 (08-00)

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<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b>  (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	09/177,814
	Filing Date	October 23, 1998
	First Named Inventor	Terry L. Gilton
	Group Art Unit	1641
	Examiner Name	N. Yang
Attorney Docket Number		2269-3530.3US (97-1257.00/US)

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Postcard receipt acknowledgment (attached to the front of this transmittal)	<input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement, PTO/SB/08A (08-00); <input type="checkbox"/> copy of cited references	<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer
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<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment in response to office action dated	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Response to final office action dated November 1, 2005	<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
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<input type="checkbox"/> Letter to Chief Draftsman and copy of FIGS. with changes made in red	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Transmittal of Formal Drawings	Remarks	
<input type="checkbox"/> Formal Drawings ( sheets)	The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees required but not submitted with any document or request requiring fee payment under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 to Deposit Account 20-1469 during pendency of this application.	

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Firm or Individual name	Brick G. Power
Signature	
Date	January 3, 2006

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**Expedited Procedure  
Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
Technology Center 1600**

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**In re Application of:** Terry L. Gilton

**Serial No.:** 09/177,814

**Filed:** October 23, 1998

**For:** SEPARATION APPARATUS  
INCLUDING POROUS SILICON COLUMN

**Confirmation No.:** 3621

**Examiner:** N. Yang

**Group Art Unit:** 1641

**Attorney Docket No.:** 2269-3530.3US  
(97-1257.00/US)

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January 3, 2006  
Date

Signature

Erika Gandre  
Name (Type/Print)

**RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is being filed in response to the final rejections presented in the Office Action mailed on November 1, 2005, the three-month shortened statutory period for response to which expires on February 1, 2006. As January 1, 2006, fell on a Sunday and Monday, January 2, 2006, is a Federal holiday, this Response, which is being submitted on Tuesday, January 3, 2006, should be deemed to have been filed within two months of the mailing date of the Final Office Action. 37 C.F.R. § 1.7.